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ABSTRACT

Ways to deal with profanity and inappropriate language used by students are discussed, and methods are suggested to control this behavior. The focus is on middle schools. Students should learn to conform to conventional language usage, they should understand that language can be appropriate, inappropriate, or unacceptable depending on the context. The first step toward changing student behavior is understanding it. Reasons for "dirty" talk are explored, and specific suggestions are given for dealing with inappropriate language in the classroom. The 46 chapters are grouped into the following sections: (1) "Identifying the Problem"; (2) "Identifying Your Values"; (3) "Setting Standards"; (4) "Why Students Talk Dirty and What To Do about It"; (5) "Implementing Standards To Eliminate Cursing"; and (6) "Coping with Specific Problems" (obscenity, sexual harassment, ethnic and racial slurs, profanity and blasphemy, slang, vulgar language). (SLD)

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